



U.S. Department of Justice

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MEDIA RELEASE

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RESIDENT OF BERWICK, MAINE CONVICTED IN ANTHRAX HOAX CASE

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Thomas Colantuono and Inspector in Charge of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service Boston Division Kenneth R. Jones, announced that a jury in U.S. District Court in Concord, New Hampshire found Robert J. McDonald, a resident of Berwick Meadows, Apt. No. 10, Berwick, Maine, guilty of two counts of obstructing the mails.

The offenses stemmed from conduct by which McDonald, age 67, deposited unaddressed envelopes containing a non-dangerous powder into mail boxes located in Dover and Portsmouth, New Hampshire last September.

McDonald could receive a prison sentence of up to 6 months and be fined up to \$5,000 for each offense. He will be sentenced by United States Magistrate Judge James Muirhead on August 30, 2004.

After the jury returned its verdict, United States Attorney Colantuono stated, “The successful prosecution of this case is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the Postal Inspectors. It also reflects this office’s determination to prosecute anyone who disrupts or threatens to disrupt the passage of mail in anyway.”

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service in Manchester, New Hampshire. This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Kinsella.